



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Allowed: December 5, 2005

TAKAHASHI et al.

Atty. Ref.: 1767-117; Confirmation No. 2150

Appl. No. 10/616,954

Group: 2627

Filed: July 11, 2003

Examiner: A. Bayat

For: ENCODING RATE CONTROLLING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION
ENCODING APPARATUS

* * * * *

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 1, 2006

Sir:

**COMMENTS REGARDING STATEMENT OF
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicants traverse the reasons for allowance to the extent these reasons are construed to suggest that the claim limitations emphasized therein are the only claim limitations missing from the prior art of record. In addition, to the extent the Examiner's reasons for allowance are (or are construed to be) inconsistent with, add or omit claim limitations, Applicants state that it is the claims that define the invention.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Michael J. Shea
Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:dbp
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100